IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Satoshi HASHIMOTO et al.

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Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action of September 15, 2011, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on December 15, 2011, and which has been extended by an enclosed Request for Extension of Time set to expire on March 15, 2012, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection set forth in the Official Action, in view of the herein-contained remarks and enclosed Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper:

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper: